in Foreign Exchange Scheme. The response to this Scheme is generally encouraging. The detailed information about the collections under the Scheme is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Income tax Office at Hubli (Karnataka)

395. SHRI. B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government propose to consider the long pending need to open an office of the Commissioner of Income Tax at Hubli, to improve tax collection and settlement to provide relief to all concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): No proposal for opening an office of the Commissioner of Income-tax at Hubli is under consideration of the Government.

Government guidelines for financial institutions on takeover bidis

396. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guidelines of Government to be followed by the financial institutions in the matter of takeovers and mergers in the corporate sector;

(b) whether the financial institutions acted in accordance with the Government's guidelines in the matter of takeover of L & T by the RIL group; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) In the matter of takeover and mergers in the corporate sector, while there are guidelines relating to acquisition of shares less than 10 percent of the voting rights in a company as well as 10 % or more of the total voting rights in a company, details of which are also contained in the Listing Agreement Form, the recent developments relating to L & T are not "a matter of takeover". These developments arose out of two Resolutions moved by Trishna Investment & Leasing Company Ltd.' Bombay, a subsidiary company of Reliance Industries Ltd., proposing the appointment of Shri Dhirubhai Ambani as Chairman, L & T and Shri Mukesh Ambani as Managing Director, L&T. These two Resolutions were subsequently withdrawn and, therefore, the question of financial institutions taking any action in the matter did not arise.

Excise duty on textile fibre and yarn

397. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is considerable disparity in the excise duties levied on various textile fibres, filament yarns including blended yarns;

(b) if so, the reasons for permitting such disparity which results in making of huge profits in some sectors at the cost of other sectors of the textile industry;

(c) whether Government propose to levy uniform *ad-volorem* duties on all textile fibres and yarns excepting on 100 per cent cotton so that the higher priced products have to bear a higher burden of duties; and

(d) if not, what corrective measures in this regard are being contemplated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d) Excise duties on various textile fibres and yarns are levied at

different rates. This is for the reason that the excise duty structure on fibres and yarns is based on various factors like revenue potential, consumption pattern etc. There is no proposal at present before the Government for levying uniform *ad-valorem* duties on textile fibres and yarns.

Banks in Punjab set on Fire

398. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of rural branches of the nationalised banks in Punjab were recently set on fire by the terrorists;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the total estimated loss in each of the bank branches destroyed in fire; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Goevrnment to meet such eventualities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The District-wise details of the estimated loss reported is given in the Statement attached (*See below*)

(c) Government of India have reviewed the situation and the State Government have intensified the security arrangements for banks.

Statement

District-wise details of banks branches burnt in Punjab during October-November **1991** *and estimated loss involved therein.*

Name of the Bank	Village/Branch	Loss of Cash
1	2	3
	Ludhiana District	
1. UCO Bank	Romi	55000/-
2. Punjab & Sind Bank	Chakkar	10000/-
3. Punjab National Bank	Mallan	35000/-
4. Co-op, Bank	Kamalpur	50000/-
5. Punjab & Sind Bank	Lila	50000/-
6. Co-op, Bank	Lodhiwal	25000/— + DBBL—2, Catgs.— 5
7. Oriental Bank of Commerce	Lodhiwal	..
8. Oriental Bank of Commerce	College Sidwan	55000/-
9. Punjab & Sind Bank	Nathowal	60000/-
10. UCO Bank	Jhurka	55000/-
11. Indian Overseas Bank	Theurke	3 lakhs
12. Punjab National Bank	Dhandran	3 lakhs
13. UCO Bank	Lalton	3 lakhs
14. UCO Bank	Surjapur	85000/-